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# The Campaign Contribution Test

There will be no confusion in the public mind regarding the proceedings instituted yesterday to determine whether political contributions by insurance officers from the 'funds in their custody and under their management constitute larceny and are punishable as such. In no sense that any fair minded citizen entertains for an instant is Mr. George W. PERKINS individually at the bar of justice or is his character in question or on trial.

The charge is technical, the process is that which will determine the abstract principle of law involved most speedily by the most competent authority and with the least injustice to the person bearing the onus-great as the injustice may be under any circumstances-and the defendant's capacity is plainly representative and not individual.

Yet it is a somewhat singular assignment of Destiny.

The gentleman in whose person and to whose necessary discomfort is now made the test of the present legality of a common practice, pursued by many insurance officers for reasons satisfactory to their judgment and consistent with honorable devotion to the interests of their policyholders, happens to be that one whose searching examination by Mr. HUGHES at the Armstrong inquiry left in no mind the remotest suspicion of betrayal of trust or use of opportunity for personal gain.

#### The End of the Morocco Conference in Sight

There seems to be no doubt that the French and German governments will ratify the agreement reached on Tuesday by their respective delegates at Algeciras, an agreement in which all the other members of the Morocco Conference concurred. It is settled that the policing of all the eight Moroccan ports shall be performed by a Moorish constabulary officered by Frenchmen and Spaniards, supervised by an inspectorgeneral, the subject of some neutral Power, who will report simultaneously to the Sultan and to the diplomatic corps residing at Tangier. It is also understood that France will content herself with three shares in the international bank which is to finance Morocco, instead of the five shares originally demanded, and that Germany will renounce ber claim to more than one share. It is

not expected that the distribution of the ports between France and Spain will give rise to any controversy.

There will be no war, then, between France and Germany. On the contrary, the relations of those Powers ought now to be more friendly than they have been at any time since the war of 1870, because each of them has reason to be satisfied with the outcome of the conference. Neither of them has secured all that it originally claimed, but each has got all that it deserves. If the Sultan of Morocco cannot be trusted to protect foreigners in his seaports, it is obvious that he should be assisted in the maintenance of order by his nearest neighbors, France and Spain, who are qualified for the function by the possession of strongholds on the edge of his territory. If he needs funds for the purpose of improving the means of internal transportation, and thus developing commerce, it is but equitable that France, which is already his largest creditor, should have the privilege of lending him more money than any other Power. It follows that so far as her claim of special interests in Morocco was legitimate it has been recognized. She has no just ground of complaint because she obtains less than M. DELCASSÉ strove to get for her when. ignoring the rights of Germany and other signatories to the Madrid Convention of 1880, he concluded with Great Britain and Spain a treaty plainly designed to bring about the ultimate establishment of a French protectorate over Morocco.

Germans, on the other hand, have good reason to feel that the Emperor WILLIAM II. has vindicated their nation's dignity and commercial interests. He virtually said to France, Great Britain, Spain and Russia: "I will fight sooner than permit my subjects to be deprived of trading privileges secured to them by the Madrid Convention. In other words, if Morocco is to be Tunisified it must be with my knowledge and consent."

The challenge could not be accepted, because at present neither Britain nor Russia has any considerable military force applicable to warfare on the Eucopean Continent, and the French army is believed to be decidedly inferior to the German in respect of efficiency as well as magnitude. The result of such a war would have been, in all likelihood, a second capture of Paris and a second dismemberment of France. Germany, on her part, would have lost her transmarine dependencies and the foreign trade which she has built up laboriously, and she would have been lucky had she managed to save most of her war fleet. Such war vessels as happened to be on the high seas would almost certainly have been taken.

To have crippled France irreparably and broken the spirit of her high hearted people would have been a crime against | directly. humanity. Nor could the offence have

been palliated by the plea that the folly of a French Minister for Foreign Affairs provoked the calamity. It was clear from the outset that a catastrophe ought to be and could be averted by means of a conference, the calling of which was suggested by the German Emperor, although ostensibly the proposal came from the Sultan of Morocco. M. Rou-VIER, who luckily for France had succeeded M. DELCASSÉ in the Foreign Office, gladly accepted the proposed means of reconciling the claims of Germany with those of his own country. As neither of those two Powers desired war, and as their respective allies, Russia and Great Britain, were deeply interested in the maintenance of peace, the eventual attainment of an accept-

able agreement at Algeciras was possi-

ble, if not almost inevitable. Not on

that account must we underrate the

usefulness of the part attributed to

Mr. WHITE, the Ambassador of the

United States at Rome and delegate to

the conference, in suggesting a solution

of the police problem, which had caused trouble and delay. The Emperor WILLIAM II., by not only accepting but promoting a pacific outcome of the vexatious Morocco incident, and thus averting the horrors of a pan-European conflict, has deserved more honor at the hands of his contemporaries and of posterity than his grandfather gained by conquest. Peace, indeed, hath her victories, no less renowned than war.

### The First Insurance Bill.

The bill passed by the Senate yesterday to regulate the terms of office of directors of mutual life insurance corporations is the first statutory enactment recommended by the insurance investigating committee to receive the approval of either house of the Legislature. It provides that:

"The annual election of directors of every domestic mutual life insurance corporation, whether incorporated by a special act or under a general law, which otherwise according to its charter or by-laws would be held hereafter and prior to No vember 15, 1906, shall be postponed and held on said date, and the directors of said corporations whose term would otherwise earlier expire shall continue to hold office until said date and until their of office of all the directors of every domestic life insurance corporation shall expire, anything to the contrary in the charter or by-laws thereof not-

The bill provides that entire new boards of directors shall be elected on November 15, that the Superintendent of Insurance shall supervise the elections, appointing three policyholders of each company to act as inspectors, and that no proxies executed prior to September 15, 1906, shall be valid. The new boards are to elect new officers of the companies, who shall take office immediately on their election. The new directors are to divide themselves by lot into two classes. one class to serve until the annual meeting in 1908, the other until the annual meeting of 1909, and there is to be no annual meeting in 1907.

There are magnificent opportunities in this proposed law for insurance officers seeking vindication and for policyholders anxious for a new deal. It has precedence over the other measures recommended by the Armstrong committee. because it must be passed promptly if the spring elections of certain companies are to be forestalled.

# A Neglected Trade Opportunity.

There are certain features in our exto students of commercial conditions. Among these are the general interest in the expansion of our trade with China and the general indifference to an expansion of trade with Singapore and British East India. So far as demand is concerned the two latter markets absorb twice as much from abroad as China does. The total population of the two is not far from that of China. The market, as a market, is far more de-

veloped. British India imports annually about \$300,000,000 worth of merchandise, or some \$50,000,000 more than China. Our share of that trade during the calendar year 1905 was a little less than \$6,000,000, or about 2 per cent, of the total. Nearly 70 per cent. of India's imports consist of cotton, metals, metal ware, machinery, railway material, sugar and petroleum, Her imports of metals and manufactures thereof amount to about \$30,000,000. She buys 250,000 tons of iron and 200,000 tons of steel. We are now buying from her about \$40,000,000 a year. England supplies about 65 per cent. of India's imports, but the market is open to competition, and intelligent business activity would secure for our merchants a much larger share than we now have.

The market of Singapore is not a mere matter of local trade. The port is a distributing centre for a large area. A recent consular report gives the imports of Singapore in 1904 as \$168,500,000, in which the United States participated to the extent of \$1,160,000, or less than 1 per cent. We bought from Singapore in the same year \$16,650,000 worth of merchandise, three-quarters of the sum being paid for tin. Here also is a market much more highly developed than that of China.

A serious obstacle to our trade in that region is our refusal to supply what is wanted. We prefer, as we do elsewhere, to try to force the sale of what we have, and the result is little better than failure. Another obstacle is the lack of direct and regular shipping lines. England, Germany, France and Japan are all in the field with swift and commodious steamers running on schedule at frequent intervals. Our Pacific service stops at Hongkong. In the matter of distance it is only about 600 miles further from New York to Bombay than it is from San Francisco to Hongkong. From New York to Singapore, east or west makes little difference; the place is just about half way around. Properly this trade should be handled from New York and by the eastward route. That would | tion recognize his singleness of purpose touch Mediterranean ports, Aden, Colombo and Singapore, with connection at Aden for East Africa, and at Colombo for Bombay, Calcutta and Rangoon, unless the India ports were touched

In the region which could thus be cov- | tion are the views of one who insists

ered there is a commerce which would make all the trade of China look like retail business.

Mr. Jerome and Justice Seabury. For several weeks WILLIAM TRAVERS JEROME has been subjected to continuous and most intemperate abuse because certain officers and employees of the street railway companies of Manhattan have not been indicted, arrested and sent to jail on account of sensational charges of jury bribing brought against them by one of their former employees. Mr. JEROME's explanations that he could not find the evidence necessary to justify criminal proceedings against the accused men have been treated with contempt. He has been represented as a traiter to the public, a tool of corrupt, law defying malefactors.

Recently an independent investigation of the facts on which Mr. JEROME refused to act was undertaken by Justice SEABURY of the City Court. Justice SEABURY cannot be said to be prejudiced in favor of the men and corporations involved in the case, nor will he be charged with a duty-warping prepossession in favor of the District Attorney. Yet his conclusion is the same as that reached by Mr. JEROME, and he holds that the legal evidence obtainable is insufficient to warrant criminal prosecutions that have been demanded with such a wealth of adjective and superabundance of heat and passion.

The incident is worthy of special notice because of other pending cases concerning which the District Attorney is being criticised with the utmost severity. The prosecution of a man for crime is a serious business, not to be undertaken lightly or on frivolous and flimsy evidence. The law courts require of the prosecution something more than suspicions, allegations and denunciations. A District Attorney may be an honest, capable official without being the obedient slave of sensational clamor.

### Old Ironsides Will Live.

The anxious inquiry which is printed below illustrates the abiding interest of patriotic Americans in the fate of the old frigate Constitution, that heirloom of American naval glory which was preserved three-quarters of a century ago by OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES'S inspiring verses, and again rescued in the present year, 1906, by the recent remarkable national protest against the ship's destruction:

" To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I read your paper every day, but have falled to see what is to e done with dear Old Ironsides. The only adequate thing is to repair her so that she is seaworthy and can be used as a training ship. It would be a sight to make one young again to see the old ship-Stewart's and Decatur's-passing down the narrows manned by a crew of sturdy American boys. I know Secretary Bonaparts is patriotic, and I hope he will see this matter as an American. " TOWNSEND POORE.

### " SCRANTON, Pa., March 27."

Mr. Poore's question was answered on the very day he put it. He has probably read with pleasure and relief in THE SUN of yesterday the news that the House Committee on Naval Affairs de cides to provide in the Naval Appropriation bill for the expenditure of \$100,000 to take care of the actual hulk of Old Ironsides, and for the expenditure of \$3,000,000 to perpetuate the name Constitution in a new vessel, intended to be the most formidable battleship that the world has ever seen.

This is the achievement of a mere iment; but it is sentiment of the kind that counts more than anything else in making a nation strong and its history glorious.

# Abuse of the Senate.

The mail of Senators is burdened with letters of inquiry from anxious constituents whose faith in them has been shaken by the scurrilous and indecent attacks of the mad mullahs of the hotfrom-the-press magazines, who do not scruple thus to indict a whole nation as degenerate. "Almost daily," says Mr. SPOONER of Wisconsin, who himself has been maligned, "I receive communications from constituents filled with doubts inspired by those who make a living by manufacturing public scandal." There is bound to be a reaction in favor of the Senate as the body that assimilates and egislates, by contrast with the House. which does not digest its information and passes bills either under the caucus whip or the spur of emotional sentiment. Meanwhile, Senators who are grown gray in the public service and have some pretension to the title of statesmen must expect to be pointed out as enemies of the people and whited sepulchres. No man, unless he is callous to abuse, can go about his day's work in the Senate without thinking of the adage, "Give a dog an ill name, and you may as well hang him."

But the skins of some Senators are not thick, and they feel the injustice done them. JOHN C. SPOONER may be taken as a type. Although one of the leaders of the American bar, and therefore a man who might command a large income if he were to devote himself unreservedly to the practice of the law, he has elected to serve the people of Wisconsin in the Senate for a long term of years. His labors in that capacity are herculean. He gives of his best and reckons the time well spent. No man is more active and useful in debate, or more conscientious as a lawmaker. His name is identified with most of the great measures of legislation and polity that have made American history during the last twenty years. As a councillor of Presidents few Senators have been his peers. Mr. SPOONER would gladly have laid down the burdens of office at the end of his last term, but the people of Wisconsin would not consent to his retire-

ment. Mr. SPOONER'S public services are spread on the record, but the personal qualities of the man are not generally known. His associates without excepand resent any reflection upon his integrity. The Senator has never used or accepted a pass or frank of any kind since he voted for the Interstate Commerce Commission act in 1887. Whatever views he holds on the railroad ques-

THE CLARK DISBARMENT CASE. upon respect for constitutional rights,

because he believes that any other way lie confusion and disaster. The defamers of the Senate may attribute base motives to him, but his reputation is safe with his colleagues. In talents and capacity for work Mr. SPOONER may stand out among the Senators of his time, but in devotion to the public service there are The Hon. CHARLES WARREN FAIRBANKS will not think the proposal that he act as arbitrator of soft coal differences at In-Such words as "liar" and "he lies" are en-

tirely unparliamentary and reprehensible, even when used in the Board of Aldermen. but some heat may be excused in the utter ances of a man who is called on to deny the accusation that he is a tool of MIKE DADY. Is the announcement that in the Berks hamlet of Shoemakersville there are fortyseven widows, one to every three houses

selling out his clients to the other side. A slump in the Folk boom for President

is reported from Missouri, in spite of the the fifth charge: fact that the rural editors have fared well at the hands of the Governor. It may be surmised that, Democrat though he is, he suffers from comparison with the modest young Attorney-General who has secured a hold on the tail of the Octopus. General J. WARREN KEIFER, who wants the representation of Southern States in Congress reduced, is respectfully referred to the failure of all but seven of the one hundred citizens of Virginia Beach to qualify as voters by paying their poll taxes.

and in all the Southern States where the primary system of nomination prevails the The material part of Sections 74 and 75 of vote at elections is invariably light. the code reads as follows: Bold JEFF DAVIS of Arkansas finished his campaign for Senator with Cabrie Nation, waving her hatchet, on his trail. There seems to be method in JEFF's style of campaigning. He has been charged with grafting, breach of trust, breach of the peace,

as ever. The man behind the barometer in the Department of Agriculture said on Tuesday

alcoholism and almost every offence in the

calendar, but in the affections of the "hill

BILLIES" he seems to be about as strong

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many like him.

dianapolis a very good joke.

an invitation or a warning?

evening to the Maritime Association: "We believe that we have within our grasp at last the scientific basis of long range weather fore-casting. It may be possible, and I believe it will, to tell you New Yorkers before this time next year what the character of the weather will be for the coming month."

A most pleasing prospect, truly. When Mr. Moore's aspirations as to long range forecasting are realized the community will look forward with hope to a day when the Weather Bureau may be able to predict the weather for twenty-four hours in advance with a reasonable degree of accuracy.

At one point on the North River agents of the society have detected men in the act of taking water from fire hydrants and carrying the water in buckets to boats lying at the dock.—The New York Tribane.

A criminal practice unquestionably derived from the boyhood method of earning entrance to the circus by carrying water to the elephants. The youth who begins by dissipating at the menagerie ends by stealing water from the city. When the Senate has surrendered to the magazine exposers. those eminent artists should direct their attention to the North River hydrants.

### SPOT ON JERSEY CITY'S ROBE. Complaint of Ticket Selling Activities of

the Police. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Str: I see that President Potts of the Jersey City Police Board says that Jersey City is the cleanest city in the United States as far as the police force is concerned. Here is one item to begin with:

It has been customary for several years for the

police to hold a picnic every summer, hire barges outing, the public paying for it at the rate of \$1 a ticket. Five or six years ago the police concluded they were not taking in enough, so now they hire the Bijou Theatre and give a show that lasts six nights. They start early in March delivering their tickets all over town for the show, which comes off about he middle of April. Each officer has so many tickets to dispose of. They do not ask if you want them, but bring them right in and lay them on your desk, anywhere from one to twenty as the case may be. They say, of course, that you are not compelled to take them, but —

I think it is a shame this is allowed here. You an imagine the amount that is collected in this when you realize that the theatre is filled six nights in succession, not as a rule by who buy tickets, for the major part of them are VICTIM JERSEY CITY, March 26.

# The Negative's Owner.

To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: I believe there s a statute forbidding any person to sell either hotographic negatives or prints therefrom without the owner's consent, or to use the prints there-from without his consent. However that may be I have made it a strict rule to print the following tice upon every order or bill that I send out "Notice: Negatives held subject to your order. Storage free. That means that I do not consider myself as

owner of any negative taken upon order, and that I simply retain the negative in my care, to be delivered to the customer if requested. Of course, it is customary for photographers to hold the negatives for the purpose of obtaining further orders from same, but I doubt very much If any photographer has the right to sell any nega-

tive or print made for a customer without that customer's consent. I think any court would rule in favor of the customer. Photographers who refuse to give up negatives are not men of good sense or judgment. Very often however, the customer would rather have the pho tographer file his negative for future use. I believe

that any man could take such a matter to court and win out on the case where a photographer refused o return a negative. It would be a good thing if each person would demand that the negative from which his photo-graphs are made be delivered to him with the inished product. Each customer has paid the price for it. It is a part of the order. If the de-mand is refused the customer may sue for the re-covery of the negative, or for damages, or for both. A few lessons of that sort would bring my unworth; s to their senses

### NEW YORK, March 28. Mathematics of Skiddeo. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Here is the latest brain teaser for the popular mathemati-

PHOTOGRAPHER

Add 1: Multiply by 9 Drop the left hand figure; Add 14: Add original number. The result will cover a mental "skiddoo.

Think of a number from 1 to 9;

The Photograph From the Mirror. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: To settle a dispute, will somebody tell me what distance an object is from a camera when a picture is taker by means of a mirror six feet away from the lens One man says the distance is six feet, as the re-

flected object is on the glass, which is that distance

distance to the glass and six feet beyond as per

The other says it is twelve feet, the actual

NEW YORK, March 28. Art to Adora Virtue. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: 1f Jersey City is as good as our town fathers say, then let something be done to make the place more beautiful.

ON THE HEIGHTS.

JERSEY CITY, March 27. Wealth. The cares of wealth, so we are told. Forbid the smile and chaff; The julep holds the only mint

Whose owner dares to laugh

The Court of Appeals of this State has just handed down a decision in the matter of the proceedings for the disbarment of Arthur E. Clark, an attorney and counsello at law, which is of unusual interest and importance not only to the legal profession but to the general public. The court in an opinion written by Judge Willard Bartlett, recently designated by Governor Higgins for that tribunal from the Appellate Division, Second Department, and concurred in by Chief Judge Cullen and Judges O'Brien, Haight, Vann and Werner, unanimously affirms a judgment of the Appellate Division, Fourth Department, removing Clark from office as an attorney and counsellor at

The proceeding was based upon eleven specific charges of misconduct. On the interposition of an answer by Clark the matter was laid before Charles A. Hawley, who as referee found most of the charges to be established by adequate proof. The two main charges against Clark were a charge of champerty, that is to say, the fomenting of litigation and a charge of

The accusation of champerty and the basis thereof are expressed as follows in

That in or about the years 1896 and 1897 the said Arthur E. Clark entered into certain contracts with one Charles A. Snell, by the terms of which he employed the said Snell to procure persons through-out the State of New York to retain and employ the said Clark to commence actions against differ ent telephone and telegraph corporations, and in and by said contracts the said Clark promised and agreed to pay said Snell for inducing said persons to place such claims in his hands for collection and for the purpose of bringing actions thereon; that, in pursuance of said contract, the said Snell did procure persons to the number of over two thousand to employ said Clark as attorney as aforesaid, and that said Clark paid to said Snell large ginia presents a great many such instances, sums of money on account thereof; that said con tracts were in violation of Sections 74 and 75 of the Code of Civil Procedure of the State of New York.

> An attorney or member at law shall not, by him-self, or by or in the name of another person, either before or after action brought, promise or give, or procure to be promised or given, a valuable consideration to any person, as an inducement to

> placing, or in consideration of having placed, in his hands, or the hands of another person, a demand of any kind for the purpose of bringing an action thereon. • • • An attorney or counsellor who violates either of the last two sections is guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be punished accordingly and must be removed from office by the Supreme Court.

Clark and Snell entered into a written agreement whereunder Clark promised to pay Snell three and subsequently five dollars for every claim he might procure from property owners against telegraph and telephone companies on account of the erection of poles in the highways upon which they owned lands, and also on account of the mutilation of shade and fruit

trees by the aforesaid corporations. Clark was to receive from 10 to 30 per cent. from each of about two thousand clients, most of whom were procured by Snell or his agents. The large majority of these claims were settled without suit. There was practically no dispute as to this statement

of fact. Judge Bartlett proceeds with great para ticularity to trace the doctrine of champerty from the days of Blackstone to the present time: he cites many decisions, both from the latterday English reports as well as those based on the statutes of the several States which define this offence. He says:

As construed by the learned Appellate Division the agreement between the attorney and the lay agent whom he employed to procure retainers for him contemplated the payment of the agent out of the profits to be derived by the attorney in the prosecution of the claims. • • • The effect of the decision below is to hold that Section 74 not only prohibits a lawyer from offering or giving any valuable consideration to a desired client for the purpose of obtaining his claim to bring suit upon, but also forbids the lawyer from paying or agreeing to pay any layman out of the prospective profits of the case for services in inducing a desired client to place his claim in the attorney's hands for nent. In behalf of the appellant it is con tended that this construction is incorrect and that the section seeks only to prohibit the offer or gift from an attorney to the person having the claim -that is to say, to the desired client -as an induce-

ment to the retainer Judge Bartlett is unable to sustain the appellant's contention. "This is a melancholy case," he asserts, "resulting in the destruction of the r; ofessional career of an educated lawvic, who for many years appears to have enjoyed an excellent reputa-The facts and the law, however force the Court to the conviction that the appellant ought not to be allowed to practise law any longer. Judge Bartlett meets the plea that soliciting business in order to preserve a man's rights is a service in the following straightforward words:

Nor is there anything in the suggestion that the employment of such paid emissaries is essential to the protection of the poor, who else might no ecome aware of their right to prosecute remedies in the courts for wrongs which they may have suffered. The permission which the law now gives to attorneys to serve clients for a contingent fee is sufficiently well known throughout the com-munity to enable any one, however limited his means, to secure adequate professional service in the enforcement of any meritorious claim in the courts. It is not necessary for the protection of the poor to sanction the practice, which as applied o negligence cases under the name of "ambulance has brought deserved discredit upo those engaged in it, and, in any event, if the which have been expressed are correct the law de nounces the practice as criminal.

Even more serious than the charge of stirring up legal strife was the accusation against Clark, established by the proof, that Clark had made a secret arrangement with the corporations to sell out his clients. After securing through the aid of Snell more than three hundred claims against the Central New York Telephone Company, Clark deliberately made overtures to one of its agents for the quashing of litigation. He then committed himself to writing in a letter to the general manager. wherein he carefully embodied the conditions under which he would sell out his clients. In a postscript he added: "Of course, you understand the necessity of not showing this letter or letting the contents be known." The final step in the negotiations appears in the following letter. signed both by Clark and by Snell:

Mr. Snell and myself make you the following offer in regard to the settlement of the claims we have against your company: You are to pay me in all \$3,000, \$1,500 at the time this agreement is made and one half the balance when 50 per cent, of the claims are settled and within one year from date. The balance of the money to be paid within two years from date, and when 75 per cent. of the claims are settled. The payment of \$1,500 to be made on or before September 1, 7898. I am to delp you in the settlement of these cases as far as I am able and vet keep my clients with me. That is, it will not to for me to say or do anything that will drive them any litigation against it.

The Court of Appeals adopts the language transaction adequately:

transaction adequately:
Thus it appears, first, that Clark settled with the company for his own compensation and turned his clients over for settlement to the very company as against which he had been retained to enforce settlement. And, not only that, but agreed to facilitate to the extent of his ability the settlement which the company might desire to make, and actually transfer to the company the contracts and retainers which he had taken against it. I cannot conceive of a more complete abandonment and overthrow of his clients by a lawyer, and I am persuaded that this transaction as to each of his clients was a fraud of the most reprehensible character.

"In addition to this." remarks Judge Bartlett in conclusion, "it may be observed that an assignment by an attorney of his contract of retainer to the very party whom he had been retained to sue is a new and remarkable curiosity in the law, irrespec-tive of the moral aspects of the transaction.

UNFORTUNATE BROOKLYN. Bill of Particulars From a Vietim of Its

Car Service. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: As far back as I can remember Brooklyn has been the butt of more or less ridicule from every New Yorker. The native of Manhattan speaks of it in terms of cheap sarcasm and the strauger to this city soon learns that it's smart to poke fun at the borough across the river. Within the last few years this form of alleged humor at the expense of Brooklyn has grown

noticeably, and it doesn't take much keen insight to learn the reason.

With street car service that would not be tolerated for a minute in any town of 10,000 inhabitants, the only marvel to me is that Brooklyn persists in growing at all. We are called slow over here. How can we be otherise when cars traversing thickly populated districts, like Tompkins avenue and St. John's place, run on actual headway of twelve to fifteen minutes and stop at 1 A. M. and

Unless the Brooklynite can afford to take a cab or doesn't mind walking eight or ten blocks he is compelled when he goes to a theatre in Manhattan to time himself as closely as though he commuted to the wilds of New Jersey. And he doesn't like it a bit.

let me tell you. Complaints do no good. In fact, the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company seems to have lent itself to a practice which looks like a mild form of bunco.

Last summer, when Eastern Parkway began to be built up, I bought a house on that beautiful boulevard (than which New York city has nothing finer) in the belief that the car service was what it appeared to be. The Tompkins avenue line, which taps the parkway near my home, ran on a four or five minute headway. The St. John's place line, which then went to the Brownsville district, had a similar schedule. This was eminently satisfactory and I had no trouble in persuading two of my friends to buy homes near mine. And then what happened? Gradually the headway was lengthened of the Tompkins avenue line until now it is, in fact, about ten minutes, although the company will tell you it is six. The St. John's place line, which some months ago changed its route and runs only to Buffalo avenue, thus stopping considerably short of the Brownsville district, now has a schedule that is so abominably slow that few if any of my neighbors take the car at all, preferring to walk eight blocks to Bergen street. Tompkins avenue line, which taps the park-

slow that lew if any of my heightors take the ear at all, preferring to walk eight blocks to Bergen street.

The service is bad enough, but the cars! You ought to see them. Last night I rode up on the Tompkins avenue line and the roof of the car was so loose that every time we bumped over a cross track I feared it would fall down on us. On many of these arks there are holes in the sides and bottom big enough for a man to put his fist through. If they are ever cleaned there is little evidence of it. And I have mentioned but two lines. Similar conditions prevail on almost all the rest. I say "almost" because there are two exceptions. These you will find when the Brooklyn Rapid Transit parallels the lines of an independent company. There the service is good. But to us miserable creatures marooned on the Eastern Parkway it is cold comfort to know that our friends two miles away can get four cars while we wait for one.

And so I say, and may be the foregoing will

wait for one.

And so I say, and maybe the foregoing will And so it say, and cause you to agree with me, that Brooklyn is laughed at because it is in the grasp of the stinglest, least progressive and most incapable transit corporation on earth. We who able transit corporation on earth. We who live here and have to put up with it don't relish the ridicule. A city of considerably more than a million inhabitants and growing more rapidly than any other in spite of its handicap can't sensibly be called dead. Give us decent car service and the laugh will be on Manhattan before many years.

BROOKLYN, March 27. W. V. HIRSH.

DIET AND AGE.

#### Training Table for Candidates for the Methusaleh Class.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Man is what he eats and drinks. Up to 40 it apparently makes little difference, provided he does not make a hog of himself. After 40 there is all the difference Old age is nothing more than degeneration of man's arteries. The earlier the degeneration, the guicker the old age, so mere "time of life" is but comparative. Could civilized man, using his brains more than his muscles for a living, know exactly what to eat and drink and what to avoid, he never could die of "old age." Gout, rheumatism, urle acid excess, &c., are all but manifestations of faulty nutrition. Dyspepsia, indigestion, colds, grip, &c., are really the results of absorption in the system of toxins, or decomposed food products. Let these conditions continue and old age advances with rapid strides.

Shall we ever arrive at a proper healthy, physi-ological form of diet? And, if we do, will man faith-

ully follow it? The writer gives the following regimen, based upon observation of thirty years, as one which seems to come nearest to the ideal on the defeat of old age: Take only two meals a day, and at what ever hour it best suits you. Drink freely of any good spring water (not mineral) through the day. Between meals drink fermented milk or butter. milk, if you like it. Breakfast, if you please, at any hour you please on grapefruit or orange juice, followed by a boiled egg, a chop, toast and butter, coffee or tea; no cooked vegetables. The second and last meal, at any hour you wish, of a good strioin steak, roast beef or mutton, broiled chicken or game; a raw salad of any kind (watercress, par excellence), with plenty of plain French oil dressing. No potatoes or cooked cereals, except spinach, the

mall cup of after dinner coffee; no sweets or des serts of any kind.
Finally, don't worry, don't hurry, keep your lowels open, and go to bed at a decent hour ing or drinking in moderation (rather hard to de-fine, individual moderation) has never shown any bad results in this attempt to defeat senility

plain, home-cooked way. Bread and butter; a

A Gentleman in Darkest Africa. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In THE SUN of March 14 "Piccadilly" declares that "the best known and most comprehensive definition giver n England of a gentleman is: 'A man who dresse

for dinner.' for dinner.'

This definition is not bad as far as it goes, but it by no means fits as many cases as a comprehensive definition ought to do. A man "with all the blood of all the Howards" might find himself totally nable to dress for dinner in camp, on an exploring expedition or during the march of an army in ac tive campaign. Would he, spee facte, not be a gen-If "Piccadilly's" definition is to be taken liter-

ally, the writer never heard of but one gentleman, and he was suddenly run upon in the wilds by well known African explorer who was amazed to find him, a thousand miles from any white settle ment, eating a very frugal meal after sunset, but n full evening dress and with the inevitable bott F. L. H. KISSIMEE, Fla., March 23,

# Janitors of the House.

Washington correspondence Chicago Inter Ocean. A point of order by Representative Prince of Illinois to day uncovered a ridiculous situation in the House employees force. The question was on giving power to the clerk to discharge janitor Those in charge of the bill said that the refused to work during the recess of Congress and that as matters now stood nothing could be done with them. In the last recess, it was declared, one of the janitors proved to be a thief, and after he had looted the cloak rooms set out on a tour of the country. Then came the funny part. He was followed, not by a man who wished to make him disgorge, but by the disbursing officer, who, according to law, had to go to him to pay him ht

#### Living Scots Who Saw Sir Walter From the Athenœum.

There cannot be many now living who are abl to say that they exchanged words with Walter Scott. The distinction is claimed by at least two Edinburgh veterans—Mr. George Croal, who re-cently celubrated his scinety-fifth bythday, and Mr. Robert G. Thomson. The latter, whose grandfather sold the first bit of Abbotsford to Scott, was when a boy, patied on the shoulder by the Great Unknown of that day; while Mr. Croal visited Ab. botsford on musical business, and on two occasion slept there. Mr. Croal knew James Hogg, too, and was the first to arrange for publication the mu of his popular song "When the Kye Come Hame."

#### The Test of Socialism. From the Washington Post.

The real test of Joseph Medill Patterson's social m will come when he is called upon to finance the political aspirations of the other fellows.

A New Industry. Knicker-What is Smith's business? Bocker-He manufactures second hand auto

in the World's Work for March life insurance in is various phases is made a special feature, over dozen articles being devoted to the subjec-President Eliot discourses on riches, and Booker T. Wash gton tells again the story of Tuskegee. An ar on socialist organization and the usual time! tes and excellent portraits complete the number.

### THE TERRIBLE TURK.

### A New Factor in His Catch-as-Catch-Can Contest With Europe.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In view of the report from Constantinople that the Porte had sent a formal note to the British Ambassador there refusing to withdraw the Turkish troops from Tabah, near Akabah at the head of the gulf of that name, which forms an arm of the Red Sea, it almost looks as if the Sultan has determined to put his foot down at last, counting on being substantially backed in more than one quarter. That he feels assured of German support almost goes without saying, though whether it would be as effective as he would like in this in-

stance may be considered a little uncertain. There is, however, another quarter from which he has of late received many and significant expressions of sympathy, that he of trouble with Great Britain. It is the Mussulman element in India. At the time of the late international demonstration at the entrance of the Dardanelles, that demonstrated nothing except the inability of the European Powers to agree on a common policy toward Turkey, the British Government received several protests from its Indian Mussulman subjects against the part it was taking in that affair, and since it was abandoned resolutions expressing satisfaction have been sent from India to the India Office in London. At the same time assurances of their sympathy and support were sent from India to the

At the same time assurances of their sympathy and support were sent from India to the Sultan at Constantinople, indicating very strong feeling on the part of the Indian Mussulmans in regard to the British participation in the coercive measures against Turkey.

Expressions of sympathy were sent not from India only, but from South Africa, where there is a large Indian Moslem community. On the occasion of the great Mohammedan festival of the Bairan the other day at Constantinople this telegram was received by the Sultan's private secretary from Durban in Natal: "Natal Indian Mohammedans tender humble Iduddoha congratulations to Khalifatul Momeneen and pray for choicest blessings."

In reply, by the Sultan's order, the following was sent to the head of the Indian Moslems in Natal by his private secretary: "Telegram received. By the imperial command I have pleasure to inform you that the congratulations you sent on behalf of the Mohammedans of Natal on the occasion of the Bairam have been submitted before the imperial throne, and have given the highest satisfaction to his Majesty."

It is quite possible that the Sultan may be deriving from these expressions of sympathy the hope that in the event of trouble with the British Government he can count on material support from the Mussulmans of India. He has already received substantial proof of their attachment in the sums subscribed by his Indian coreligionists toward the cost of the construction of the Damascus-Hedjaz railway, the object of which is both political and military, and in the event of complications arising out of the relations between Turkey and Egypt would play a very important part in military operations by the Turks toward the Egyptian frontier.

The suggestion that there may be a British naval demonstration at Smyrna in protest against the Turkish refusal to evacuate Tabah increases the interest in the matter, as behind it all lurks the possibility that in this way it is intended to raise the question of the British position in Egypt, which is yet with

NEW YORK, March 24.

Burlington Magazine for March. The March number of the Burlington Magarine, published in America by Robert Grie Cooke, contains a long article by Mr. Robert Dell on the assistance given to Sir Barry, the ostensible architect of the Houses of Parliament, by Augustus Welby Pugin, well known as the pioneer of the Gothic revival in England. Mr. Dell's array of facts seems to ascribe chiefly to Pugin what artistic merit the Houses of Parliament possess The article is well illustrated. Another art cle of architectural as well as of antiquarian interest is Mr. Lawrence Weaver's Garden Statues." Mr. Weaver holds that for the garden lead is a peculiarly suitable material, and that it acquires a beautiful patina from exposure to the weather. The

patina from exposure to the weather. The illustrations are reproductions of specimens found in the gardens of Castle Hill, Earl Forteseue's country seat, and of Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire.

Mr. Starkie-Gardner has an authoritative article on silver plate, describing that of the Charles II, period in the collection of the Duke of Rutland at Belvoir Castle, with illustrations of eighteen examples in the collection. Mr. A. M. Hinds's illustrated article on five drawings and etchings by Rembrandt declares against the accepted theory that the head represented in these and in paintings at Cassell and elsewhere represents Rembrandt's father.

sell and eisewhere representations.

Mr. Bernhard Sicket's article on the exhibition of some thirty "Independents" in London describes the most important non-academic show of recent years. In the department of "Art in America," edited by Mr. Frank J. Mather, Jr., is a description of the "Hercules and Nessus" of Antonio Pollauolo in the Jarves collection at New Haven, illustration in the Jarves collection at New Haven, illustrated by a full page colletype plate. The frontispiece is a photogravure of a beautiful sixteenth century Italian bronze statuette of a boy, from the collection of Sir William Republic.

# Tea Drunkenness.

From the Lancet. Tea has undoubtedly its victims as well as alon hol, though we think that it would be absurd to say that the former beverage shares with the latter any serious connection with crime. Both, of course may easily be sources of disturbance to health and immoderate tea drinking is, in one sense, jus as physiologically sinful as drinking an alcoholic beverage to excess. Alcohol is, of course, a more insidious poison than tea, and its effects are more drastic and perceptible. Nevertheless, tea may e equally stealthy in disturbing functional equi

As a factor in disease excessive tea drinking very often overlooked, and it does not occur to many persons that tea may be the source of their trouble At any rate, when the abuse of tea in such instances es place to the drinking of it in a rational manner and in moderate quantities the toms of disturbance of the gastric function, such a flatulence and irregular action of the neart and of the nervous system, such as tremulousness and excitability, disappear. The tea drunkard and the alcohol drunkard are both victims of excess; they abuse these beverages, and the results are analogous; they wilfully step from the path of physiological righteousness and the sequel is disease. The wor abuse, in fact, sums up the whole question when we look at it temperately and without prejudice. Persons of intemperate views, on the other hand.

hold that when a risk of abuse exists it is folly in any circumstances to tolerate use, and so we have among us organized movements for the suppression of alcohol, tea, tobacco, sugar, meat and so forth. We have often heard of the existence of "tea drunkerness." which was epidemic in its dimensions in the swarming districts of a great industrial tow but we confess to some scepticism as to whether the tea evil was anywhere in any sense commen-surable with the alcohol evil. Still, we know that in poor families where the teapet is always on the nob and the worst qualities of the leaves are thoroughly extracted, the imbibition of the stew being indulged in all day, the effects on th health have many points in common with those arising from the alcohol habit. Such persons are, as a rule, ill nourished, tea often being taken effe tively to stay the pangs of hunger; they are con tics, gastric ulcer is common among them, and their nervous system is seriously af fected.

#### His Fondest Memories. From Success Magazine.

A hard headed old Pittsburg manufact who made his fortune, as he expresses it, "with his coat off," was induced by his daughters to accompany them to a Wagner concert, the first he had ever attended. The next day he happened to meet an acquaintance who had seen him the night

before, who asked: "I suppose you enjoyed the concert last night "Yes; it took me back to the days of my youth."

the old man said, with a reminiscent sigh.

"Ah, summer days in the country, girl in a lawn dress, birds singing, and all that?" "No, the days when I worked in a boiler shop in Scranton."

#### Argument for Municipal Operation From the City Record.

The salary paid to telephone operators in th various city departments varies from \$750 to \$1,800 per annum. Blissful Distance.

#### First Public Servant-What is your idea of happi-Second Public Servant-To live in the moon and draw mileage. Mr. Henry James in the North American Re

or April drifts to Philadelphia. "A Jeffersonia Democrat" launches the Presidential boom of Ma Woodrow Wilson. Vernon Lee writes on Tolstel Booker T. Washington on Tuskegee, and Ida h Harper on Susan B. Anthony. There are articles on life insurance, on the Senate and treaty making on Canada and the tariff and on immortality.